

THE LINK

Methodist Link Churches Magazine

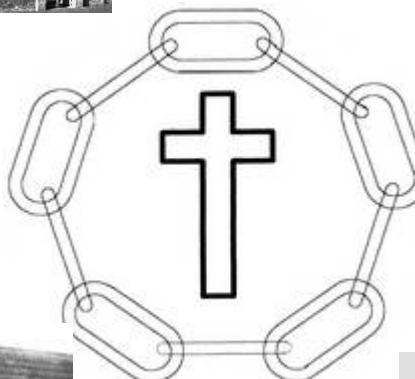
March 2009 Volume 44. No. 2.



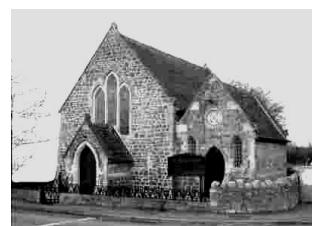
BREAN



BRENT KNOLL



BURNHAM ON SEA



EAST BRENT



WEST HUNTSPILL

Minister's Letter

Red is for the blood He gave.
Green is for the grass He made.
Yellow is for the sun so bright.
Orange is for the edge of night.
Black is for the sin we made.
White is for the grace He gave.
Purple is for His hour of sorrow.
Pink is for our new tomorrow.
An egg full of jelly beans. Colourful and sweet.
Is a prayer, a promise, A loved one's treat!

We then put a jelly bean of each of the above colours in a plastic egg to take home and tell of Jesus' love!

I had this poem and a string of beads made into a key ring which was sent to me by Chloe which is a wonderful gift and a lovely reminder of the Easter message. A Big **THANK YOU** Chloe.

The poem which came with it has each line in its own colour and the effect is very striking. So for those lost for ideas when looking after grandchildren or just babysitting here's something to do.

Lent will soon be here with our Ash Wednesday Service at Burnham at 7pm. Please bring your last year's Palm crosses. For those who may not have a course to follow and for those who have can I suggest something. It won't hurt and will only take a few minutes. The Jelly bean poem has 8 lines. Lent has 40 days and nights to be precise. Take one colour at a time and reflect through Lent on its meaning for you. When you have run through the prayer five times the celebration of Easter will be here. In the meantime what a lesson we could have all shared together.

Every Blessing

Stephen

Dear Stephen,

I was reading recently in the Recorder about the refurbishment at Burnham and was reminded of your ministry there over the past few years. I have often thought of you, remembering your coming to Kenn Road, Clevedon some five or six years ago, and your sharing of hope to be reinstated, I think it was.

I was Super at Weston from '79-'84, and have happy memories of some of the folk at Burnham, together with the church as it was then. Some may remember me, although I'm sure the congregation will be quite different now. Perhaps you may be able to pass on my greetings to them at this time of new beginnings. I cannot quite believe that this is my twentieth year of 'sitting down'! The Lord is gracious. I have given up preaching now as I have found myself slowing up mentally, but can still take my turn at the organ every other week. Ida and I continue fairly well with medical help, but are both feeling a lack of energy! We do hope you are well in every way, and that the work at Burnham and the villages goes well. Every blessing to you and yours

Howard and Ida Ashby



Birth

A daughter Caitlin May to Alison (Nee Thomas) Granddaughter for Christine Thomas.

Death

Mrs. Marjory Brown on 10th February in Tudor Lodge formally of Homelane House at the age of 100.

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

Sat. 21st	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee Morning in aid of RNLI - Burnham Methodist Hall
Mon 23rd		Start of Fair Trade fortnight
Tue. 24th	2.30pm	LINK Villages Fellowship - Mrs. Pat Lesley - Peter Gillard Memorial School, India - Collection
Tue. 24th	7.30pm	WORSHIP CONSULTATION Note change of date
Wed. 25th	7.00pm	ASH WEDNESDAY Service
Fri. 27th	10.00 - 12.00	Fair Trade Fortnight Fayre at 6 St. Michaels Road. There will be craft, food and clothes on sale.
Sat. 28th	10.00 - 12.00	Shoppers Coffee Morning Burnham All Welcome

MARCH

Sun. 1st	am	Traidcraft table in the Hall
Wed. 4th	8.00pm	Wednesday Group - Talk and Demonstration by Miles Tea.
Thu. 5th	2.30pm	Thursday Fellowship - Rev. Stephen Hill.
Thu. 5th	2.30pm	Bible Study at Brent Knoll
Fri. 6th	2.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer, Brean Methodist Church - Speaker Rev Christine Judson
Fri. 6th	2.30pm	Women's World Day of Prayer, Baptist Church Burnham - Speaker Mrs. Cynthia Huddlestone
Sat 7th	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund - Choir
Tue. 10th	2.30pm	LINK Villages Fellowship - Rev. Pam Pembro – Susanna Wesley
Sat 14th	10.00 - 12.00	Sale of Nearly New in aid of RD Fund.
Sat 14th	10.00 - 12.00	Shoppers Coffee Morning Burnham All Welcome
Mon. 16th	7.30pm	Circuit Men's Supper Club - Rev. Karen Murphy – "Weston Hospice"
Thur. 19th	2.30pm	Thursday Fellowship - Waste / Recycling.
Sat. 21st	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee Morning in aid of RNLI - Burnham Methodist Hall
Sun. 22nd		LAST Day for items for the April LINK
Tue. 24th	2.30pm	LINK Villages Fellowship - Yeo Valley - Video
Wed. 25th	10.00 - 12.00	Coffee Morning at 11Eastleigh Close Raffle, Cakes, & £1.00 Stall
Sat. 28th	10.00 - 12.00	Shoppers Coffee Morning Burnham All Welcome

APRIL

Wed. 1st	8.00pm	Wednesday Group - Easter Talk by Rev. Steven Ayers.
Thu. 2nd	2.30pm	Thursday Fellowship - Wedding Memories - Members.

Fri. 3rd 7.00 for 7.30pm Fashion Show by Dorothy Howkins of W-s-M at Burnham Methodist Church
Sat 4th 10.00 - 12.00 Coffee Morning in aid of the RD Fund – Wednesday Group
Sun. 5th am. Traidcraft table in the Hall
Sat 11th 10.00 - 12.00 Shoppers Coffee Morning Burnham - All Welcome
Tue. 14th 2.30pm LINK Villages Fellowship - Members Afternoon - Bring & Buy.

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT

23rd February to 8th March is Fair Trade Fortnight and Burnham-on-Sea are having a

Fair Trade Fortnight Fayre at 6 St. Michaels Road
on Friday 27th February, 10.00 – 12.00 noon.
There will be craft, food and clothes on sale.
As a Fair Trade Church this is our first event.
Please spread the word.

Have you ever read a book on Christian Teaching as a Gripping novel you cannot read quick enough?

Australian friends stayed with me over the Christmas - New Year period. Trish never missed any opportunity to read it, & left it for me when she & her husband went home. It is

The Shack
by Wm. Paul Young
ISBN 0-9647292-3-0.

I recommend you read it, but beware; you are likely to find it difficult to put down. A friend seeing it wishes to read it as soon as I have finished it. Anyone wishing to borrow it, when we have both read it, may add your name to a waiting list let me know. It has 250 pages.

Harry Kempson.

Women's World Day of Prayer Friday March 6th 2009

The Service this year has been prepared by
the Women of Papua New Guinea
and is entitled

"In Christ there are many members yet one body"

Brean Methodist Church 2.30pm. Speaker Rev Christine Judson

**Women's World Day of Prayer ~ Friday 6th March 2009
at 2.30 pm in Burnham Baptist Church
Speaker Mrs. Cynthia Huddlestome**

**'IN CHRIST THERE ARE MANY MEMBERS YET ONE
BODY'**

**SALE of GOODS
Nearly New Clothes
Household Goods Etc.
Saturday 14th March
10.00 – 12.00
In aid of the Redevelopment Fund**

**Fashion Show
By Dorothy Howkins
Weston S Mare
Friday 3rd April
7.00 for 7.30pm
Tickets £5.00 Inc Tea/Coffee Biscuits**

**Coffee Morning
At 11 Eastleigh Close B o S
On Wednesday 25th March
10.00 – 12.00**
In aid of Church Redevelopment Fund
There will be a Raffle, Cake Stall and a £1.00+ Stall.
Please come and give your support – everyone welcome

Just a thought

B-i-b-l-e

Basic Information Before Leaving Earth
Give me a sense of humour. Lord
Give me the grace to see a joke
To get some humour out of life
And pass it on to other folk

Dennis Dixon

LINK VILLAGES' FELLOWSHIP

Mrs. Joyce Pipet welcomed Mrs Joan Eales on Tuesday January 27th Mrs. Eales subject was “Somewhere to go in Weston” This was set up to cater for those who have nowhere to go during the day.

The meeting premises in the centre of Weston opens for coffee and biscuits at 10.00am. A three course lunch costing £1.00 is available at midday and before people leave at around 4.00pm tea and biscuits are served.

Various activities can be undertaken. Many churches in and around Weston are very supportive financially and some shops also help food wise. There are approximately 60 - 70 regulars. It is a very worthwhile venture. Some of them have moved on from the drug situation and trained for jobs or gone to college or university.

Fellowship was cancelled on February 10th owing to the weather and the long distance Wiltshire Farm Foods had to travel from Trowbridge where there was flooding.

February 24th The speaker will be Mrs. Pat Lesley - Peter Gillard

Memorial School, India.

March 10th The speaker will be Rev. Pam Prembro –
“Susanna Wesley”

March 24th We shall have a representative from Yeo Valley
with a video

We shall have our members' afternoon with a Bring and Buy stall on April 14th.

Eileen Goundry

Primary School Proverbs

A Primary School teacher had twenty-six children in her class. She presented each child in her classroom the 1st half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by Primary School children. Their insight may surprise you.

While reading, keep in mind that these are 6-year-olds, because the last one is a classic!

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. Don't change horses | until they stop running |
| 2. Strike while the | wasp is close. |
| 3. It's always darkest before | Daylight Saving Time |
| 4. Never underestimate the power of | termites |
| 5. You can lead a horse to water but | How? |
| 6. Don't bite the hand that | looks dirty |
| 7. No news is | impossible |
| 8. A miss is as good as a | Mr. |
| 9. You can't teach an old dog new | Maths |
| 10. If you lie down with dogs, | you'll stink in the morning |
| 11. Love all, trust | me |
| 12. The pen is mightier than the | pigs |
| 13. An idle mind is | the best way to relax |
| 14. Where there's smoke there's | pollution |
| 15. Happy the bride who | gets all the presents |
| 16. A penny saved is | not much. |
| 17. Two's company, three's | the Musketeers. |
| 18. Don't put off till tomorrow what | you put on to go to bed |
| 19. Laugh and the whole world laughs
with you, cry and | You have to blow your
nose |
| 20. There are none so blind as | Stevie Wonder |
| 21. Children should be seen and not | spanked or grounded |
| 22. If at first you don't succeed | get new batteries. |
| 23. You get out of something only what you | See in the picture on the
box |
| 24. When the blind lead the blind | get out of the way. |

25. A bird in the hand is going to poop on you.

And the WINNER and last one!

26. Better late than Pregnant



**They're Back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins!
Thank God for church ladies with typewriters.**

These sentences (with all the hiccups/misprints) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'

The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the Jumble sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and meditation to follow,

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church.
Please use large double door at the side entrance.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Dennis Dixon

BURNHAM.

www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk

STEWARDS COLUMN

Didn't the first snow of the winter look very pretty from the warmth of your own front room?

I expect for many of our older friends this was not a welcome sight but for our younger friends it must have been wonderful, as many would have had extra days off school and colleges to enable them to play and frolic in the snow. This has been the heaviest snow we have had here in Burnham for many a year. We hope that none of our link friends suffered any falls during this very cold weather.

Have we all been good Christians and looked in upon our neighbours to make sure they were alright during this bad weather I am sure we have because we would have thought of the words of our Lord "*for as much as you do it unto one of these my children you do it unto me*".

We can see now the coming of spring and I am sure we are all looking forward to the hope of a warm summer. The bulbs are pushing their leaves through the ground and it gives us a promise of things to come.

We hope that all our friends in the Link are well and we pray for you all.

Here in Burnham we are still getting used to our beautiful refurbished Church and for those of the link who have not visited us yet there is a treat waiting for you.

God Bless you all.

From Burnham

June on behalf of the Stewards.

BURNHAM REDEVELOPMENT

The money raised now stands at £214,532.96 Expenses to date are £203,415.76.

We are still awaiting the final figures from the Architect and Builder.

We are aware that loans have to be repaid so the money raising continues. The following events are planned so please make a note and support:

- March.14th Sale of Goods – good quality items required.
- March 25th Coffee Morning at the home of Hilary Wotton, 11, Eastleigh Close, Burnham.
- April 3rd Fashion Show by Dorothy Howkin of W-s-M at Burnham Methodist Church

The major event being planned is the

“FLOWER FESTIVAL AND CELEBRATION OF THE 130TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY” JUNE 5th – 7th.

Friday 5th Opening at 2.00pm with a Concert in the evening.

Saturday Church open for viewing of arrangements from 10.00am - 6.00pm

Sunday – Special Services led by the Chairman of the District, Revd. A. Ward Jones.

There will be “*Birthday Tea*” at 5.00pm”

The Church will be open for viewing of arrangements from 10.00am – 6.00pm.

Further details later but we ask for your help and support. If you would like to help in anyway, or wish to know more, please contact me.

Joyce F. Plumb



BREAN

www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org

Well it's been a hard month and we have had our share of frost and snow.

But now there are increasing signs of activity in Brean. And a few more cars around at the weekend as prospective caravan purchasers and others venture into the village.

In the church too we look forward to March for the return of a few of our summer regulars. The nights begin to draw out; then at the end of the month we put our clocks forward and hey presto, it seems that new life dawns!

At the beginning of February we shared in the Covenant Service with friends from St. Bridget's and afterwards some of us enjoyed lunch together. How much easier it is to get people to a function when there is food on the table! It is no coincidence then that our Church Council on 8th March follows a snack lunch after morning service – food for the spirit, food for the body, food for thought!

This month it is the turn of our church to host the Brean and Berrow (Women's) World Day of Prayer Service. Rev Christine Judson from Highbridge is the principal speaker at 2.30pm on 6th March.

March is the month of Lent. Some of us will join in house groups as a way of preparation for Easter. I can't say that anyone I know has yet admitted to anything that he or she is going to give up. Still it is a time of hope as we follow Jesus on those last days that he spent on earth.

Harvey Allen

WEST HUNTSPILL



On Saturday January 24th the Huntspill Ecumenical Prayer Group organised their usual Day of Prayer to celebrate The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The format produced by Churches Together was followed and the day was divided into eight sessions. Each session was led by people from different denominations and the theme for me day was Reconciliation. The material was prepared by the Christian Church in Korea, a country that has been divided since the Korean War.

Each session was focused on areas which are often seen as being major obstacles to our integrated lives in the local communities and

our international relationships as well as me divisions in our Christian lives. We heard how. Difference, Violence, Poverty, Prejudice & Pain can all be seen as major obstacles to Christian Unity. The last session came under the heading of Hope. Hope implies positive thinking about positive change. However, the commentary suggests mat after repeated setbacks, it can be easier to shrug our shoulders and suggest there is no point going any further. Do we confuse unity with uniformity, diversity with division? "Unity in diversity can express the diversity of the Trinity and help us to explore the greatness of God" Reading that made me think of the line of the hymn "Bring your traditions richest store..... Explore our visions, pray for more...." (Hymns & Psalms 765) We were certainly all left with a great deal to think about at the end of the day.

A very big Thank You must go to individuals without whom the day would not have happened 1st to the speakers who must have spent considerable time and energy preparing their sessions 2nd to Christine and Catherine for preparing the wonderful displays of visual aids to focus our minds and aid our thinking. 3rd but not least, to all those people who helped with the catering throughout the day.

BRENT KNOLL

I have just had a gentle nudge from the editor reminding me that February is a short month and the Brent knoll contribution should have been handed in yesterday! So it's away with the duster and vacuum cleaner and switch on the brain box

Casting my mind back to January, I should like to say how much we enjoyed the epiphany service so skilfully led by the LINK preaching team, It was good to be part of a large congregation with people from all over the circuit sharing in our Christian faith which unites us. Thank you to all who gave their time and talents to making it all possible

At Brent knoll we had managed to remain open and active despite the “weather events” and we are thankful for a warm building on level ground. Illness has taken its toll and we send our best wishes to those who have been unable to be with us on a Sunday morning. We miss them.

At our last Bible Study morning we completed the series on the patriarchs and now look forward to this year's Lent Course. If there are any others who would like to join us they would be very welcome. We meet next in our schoolroom on Thursday March 5th at 2.30pm. and we shall follow the York Course “Faith, Hope & Love”

We were amused at that hype in the local press about our £500.00 gift to BIBIC but are not so amused now to find that after all this time there has been no acknowledgement and what's more the cheque has not been cashed. It makes one wonder!

On that sour note, I to say no more except to add our greetings to all our friends in the Link.

Barbara Drew.

EAST BRENT

It's a long time since our Church was closed because of the weather. When I learned that Milton had closed their Church for both Sunday services, the roads being covered in snow and very icy, the decision not to open for one Sunday in February was made, the preacher having to come from Worle, all but one of the congregation has to travel by car with many living down country lanes, so most seemed quite relieved. Gordon and I took the opportunity to join with Brean for their morning service, as it's within easy walking distance from our house, we were given a very warm welcome, with a "you ought to come here all the time". The appointed preacher was ill so Harvey took the service. It was great to be able to attend a different Church for once, without feeling guilty. Our congregations in the country Churches are so small that we miss anyone who is unable to attend.

It was a pleasure to meet the new probation minister and his wife, Andrew and Julie, before he joins the link in September. He lives in the next street to where Gordon was born and knows many of the same people, as well as Tim and Hilary Lansdown who used to live in Burnham, It's a small world.

We send our best wishes for a speedy recovery to those of our congregation who have been unwell, and to David and Eileen Craig up there in Scotland – it appears to be warmer up there than down here.

Jill Legg

Minister

Rev. Stephen Hill, 28A Caernarvon Way. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2DQ

stephen@hill735.fsworld.co.uk

Tel. (01278) 782306

Editors

Cedric & Dorothy May, 6 Brightstowe Road. Burnham on Sea. TA8 2HW

cedric.may@btinternet.com

Tel. (01278) 784204

Web Sites

www.methodistchurchburnhamonsea.org.uk

www.brean-methodist-church.home.dhs.org

www.brentknollmethodistchurch.com

**The Deadline for the
April 2009 “LINK” is
Sunday 22nd March 2009**

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